



03-08-05

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/665,169
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Alan K. Snell
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Keshia L. Gibson
Attorney Docket Number	1032.005

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks This correspondence includes: Transmittal Form PTO/SB/21 (1 page); Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages); Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO/SB/08A (7 pages); Copies of Thirty-nine (39) References; and Itemized Postcard (1 page).		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Tillman Ivsan, PLLC, P.O. Box 471581, Charlotte, NC 28247		
Signature	<i>Chad D. Tillman</i>		
Printed name	Chad D. Tillman		
Date	March 7, 2005	Reg. No.	38,634

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Signature	<i>Phyllis L. Dunham</i>		
Typed or printed name	Phyllis L. Dunham	Date	March 7, 2005

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ER 876582665US



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/665,169 Confirmation No. 6319
Inventor : Alan K. SNELL
Filed : Sep. 18, 2003
TC/AU : 3761
Examiner : GIBSON, Keshia L.

Docket No. : 1032.005
Customer No. :

March 7, 2005

Via U.S. Express Mail
ER 876582665 US

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant brings the attached document or documents cited on the attached forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97-98.

Additionally, Applicant notes that several international and foreign references are submitted that are not in English. Applicant submits in conjunction with each such reference a full translation into English of the reference where Applicant has such translation, and Applicant accordingly checks the appropriate box on Form PTO/SB/08A. Applicant further submits in conjunction with each such reference a translation of only the abstract of the reference into English where Applicant only has such translation, and Applicant also checks the appropriate box on Form PTO/SB/08A. In this scenario, the word "Abstract" is parenthetically found after the reference number to indicate that only the translation of the abstract into English is provided and not a full translation.

Applicant submits that each international and foreign reference that is not translated is submitted for what is disclosed in the drawings and figures thereof.

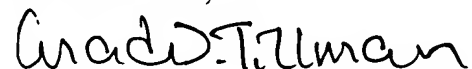
Applicant submits that each international and foreign reference for which a translation is provided is submitted for what is disclosed not only in the drawings and figures thereof, but also for what is disclosed in such translation.

Applicant draws particular attention to the following references as being of particular interest to Applicant:

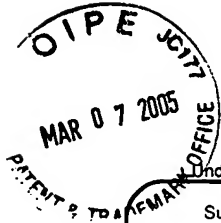
<u>Reference No.</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Translation Provided</u>
US 2005/0015052A1	Klippen et al.	17/07/2003	N/A
US 2004/0167489A1	Kellenberger et al.	14/02/2003	N/A
JP 2002337814A	Kurimoto Hiroshi	27/11/2002	Abstract
JP 2001114214A	Nakanishi Akira	24/04/2001	Full Translation
JP 10-095481A	Narawa Mika et al.	14/04/1998	Full Translation
JP 05-139473A	Masaki Jo et al.	08/06/1993	Abstract
JP 04-339724A	Kaneda Takashi	26/11/1992	Full Translation

Nothing herein—including the submission of the documents themselves, whether in this or any other filing—constitutes an admission by Applicant that any of the documents is prior art with respect to the present invention, or a waiver of any rights of Applicant. Indeed, while each citation includes a date, it should be understood that, whether expressly stated or not, the date specified in the citation is a date as alleged by the document or otherwise, and Applicant neither admits nor denies the correctness of the specified date at this time. Moreover, with regard to non-patent documents, Applicant neither admits nor denies that each document submitted is, in fact, a “publication” within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102.

Respectfully submitted,
TILLMAN IVSAN, PLLC



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 OIPE JC177
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 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Application Number	10/665,169
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Alan K. Snell
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Keshia L. Gibson
Attorney Docket Number	1032.005

Sheet **1** of **17**

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2003-0073970 A1	04-17-2003	Suga	
		US- 2002-0078665 A1	06-27-2002	Salman	
		US- 2002-0079246 A1	06-27-2002	Ling	
		US- 2002-0117419 A1	08-29-2002	Tippey	
		US- 2002-0125171 A1	09-12-2002	Kuske	
		US- 2002-0170275 A1	11-21-2002	Salman	
		US- 2003-0065302 A1	04-03-2003	Kuroda	
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		US- 2004-0092901 A1	05-13-2004	Reece	
		US- 2004-0159658 A1	08-19-2004	McLaughlin	
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		US- 2004-0167490 A1	08-26-2004	Nelson	
		US- 2004-0167493 A1	08-26-2004	Jarpenberg	
		US- 2004-0168947 A1	09-02-2004	McDonald	
		US- 2004-0172002 A1	09-02-2004	Nelson	
		US- 2004-0173490 A1	09-09-2004	Otsubo	
		US- 2004-0176735 A1	09-09-2004	Snell	
		US- 2005-0015052 A1	01-20-2005	Klippen	
		US- 1,994,135	03-12-1935	Horowitz	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 89/00037	01-12-1989	Froidh		
		WO 90/01311	02-22-1990	Rawlings		
		WO 95/32698	12-07-1995	LaVon		
		WO 96/41753	12-27-1996	Bauer		
		WO 97/33815	09-18-1997	Mattiasson		
		WO 98/57675	12-23-1998	Kalentun		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/665,169
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Alan K. Snell
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Keshia L. Gibson
Attorney Docket Number	1032.005

Sheet **2** of **7****U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2,145,137	01-24-1939	Sayers	
		US- 2,935,828	05-10-1060	Mahaffy	
		US- 3,343,663	09-26-1967	Bradford	
		US- 3,442,686	05-06-1969	Jones	
		US- 3,605,746	09-20-1971	Schaar	
		US- 3,710,797	01-16-1973	Marsan	
		US- 3,794,033	02-26-1974	Ryan	
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		US- 3,938,523	02-17-1976	Gilliland	
		US- 3,970,217	07-20-1976	Culbertson	
		US- 4,034,760	07-12-1977	Amirsakis	
		US- 4,050,462	09-27-1977	Woon	
		US- 4,056,919	11-08-1977	Hirsch	
		US- 4,076,663	02-28-1978	Masuda	
		US- 4,242,854	01-06-1981	Nissen	
		US- 4,265,070	05-05-1981	Mainberger	
		US- 4,286,082	08-25-1981	Tsubakimoto	
		US- 4,573,608	03-04-1986	Hansen	
		US- 4,577,453	03-25-1986	Hofeler	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 99/03436	01-28-1999	Hammons		
		WO 00/19953	04-13-2000	Tameishi		
		WO 00/19954	04-13-2000	Tameishi		
		WO 01/64156 A1	09-07-2001	Clark		
		WO 02/085271 A1	10-31-2002	McManus		
		WO 02/094678 A1	12-28-2002	Kondo		

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Sheet **3**of **7****Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/665,169
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Alan K. Snell
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Keshia L. Gibson
Attorney Docket Number	1032.005

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,585,448	04-29-1986	Enloe	
		US- 4,594,835	06-17-1986	Gray	
		US- 4,598,528	07-08-1986	McFarland	
		US- 4,630,320	12-23-1986	Van Gompel	
		US- 4,641,381	02-10-1987	Heran	
		US- 4,646,362	03-03-1987	Heran	
		US- 4,765,477	08-23-1988	Froidh	
		US- 4,798,603	01-17-1989	Meyer	
		US- 4,802,884	02-07-1989	Froidh	
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		US- 4,964,859	10-23-1990	Feldman	
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		US- 5,054,619	10-08-1991	Muckenfuhs	
		US- 5,065,868	11-19-1991	Cornelissen	
		US- 5,141,505	08-25-1992	Barrett	
		US- 5,176,668	01-05-1993	Bernadin	
		US- 5,192,606	03-09-1993	Proxmire	

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 02/096331 A2	12-05-2002	Hirotsu		
		WO 2005/005276 A1	01-20-2005	Hermansson		
		EP 1413272 A1	04-28-2004	Mizutani		
		EP 1205171 A2	05-15-2002	Otsubo		
		EP 1205171 A3	05-15-2002	Otsubo		
		EP 0747295 A1	12-11-1996	Bauer		

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Sheet 4

of 7

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		US- 5,255,817	10-26-1993	Reiland	
		US- 5,295,988	03-22-1994	Muckenfuhs	
		US- 5,304,158	04-19-1994	Webb	
		US- 5,383,872	01-24-1995	Roessler	
		US- 5,413,568	05-19-1995	Roach	
		US- 5,462,166	10-31-1995	Minton	
		US- 5,509,915	04-23-1996	Hanson	
		US- 5,520,674	05-28-1996	Lavon	
		US- 5,564,261	10-15-1996	Kiner	
		US- 5,651,778	07-29-1997	Melius	
		US- 5,666,787	09-16-1997	Young	
		US- 5,678,727	10-21-1997	Rice	
		US- 5,897,542	04-27-1999	Lash	
		US- 5,971,153	10-26-1999	Bauer	
		US- 5,986,165	11-16-1999	Moder	
		US- 5,016,778	05-21-1991	Reiland	
		US- 6,028,240	02-22-2000	Wessel	
		US- 6,040,494	03-21-2000	Kalentun	
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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0539703 B1	03-05-1997	Hanson		✓
		GB 2,277,914 A	11-16-1994	Nakanishi		
		GB 2,366,730 A	03-20-2002	MacNeil		
		JP 11-113956 A (Abstract)	04-27-1999	Moriura		✓
		JP 10-305059 A (Abstract)	11-17-1998	Shiseido Co Ltd		✓
		JP 10-095481 A	04-14-1998	Narawa		✓

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		US- 6,079,562	06-27-2000	Bauer	
		US- 6,116,781	09-12-2000	Skeens	
		US- 6,260,211 B1	07-17-2001	Rajala	
		US- 6,264,972 B1	07-24-2001	Drury	
		US- 6,297,424 B1	10-02-2001	Olson	
		US- 6,316,687 B1	11-13-2001	Davis	
		US- 6,387,085 B1	05-14-2002	Van Gompel	
		US- 6,408,872 B1	06-25-2002	Skeens	
		US- 6,423,045 B1	07-23-2002	Wise	
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		US- 6,458,110 B1	10-01-2002	Lavon	
		US- 6,475,199 B1	11-05-2002	Gann	
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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 6

of 7

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/665.169
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Filing Date	September 18, 2003
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First Named Inventor	Alan K. Snell
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Art Unit	3761
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Examiner Name	Keshia L. Gibson
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Attorney Docket Number	1032.005
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Sheet	7	of	7
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Date Considered	
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